

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 OC-05 CCO-00 OCL-00 /086 W

----- 033456

R 181226Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6336

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 11169

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS US ET

SUBJECT: INCIDENT AT KAGNEW TRACT DELTA

REF: A. ASMAGB 796 DTG 180910Z SEP 75

B. ASMARA 797 DTG 180938Z SEP 75

1. FOLLOWING ARE FOOTNOTES TO COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS REF TELS.
2. CONSUL ASMARA NOTIFIED DCM AND AMB OF INCIDENT DESCRIBED REF A BY PHONE, ASKING THAT AMB PROTEST TO EPMG IN ADDIS AND REQUEST EPMG INTERVENTION BECAUSE SITUATION BETWEEN AMERICANS AND EPMG TROOPS STILL

SEEMED TENSE IN EARLY EVENING.

3. AMB COULD NOT REACH FONMIN KIFLE UNTIL NEARLY MIDNIGHT

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LOCAL TIME, MADE PROTEST AND REQUESTED FONMIN INTERVENTION.

4. FONMIN APPARENTLY DID IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONE ASMARA, AND WE UNDERSTAND HE WAS ALSO CONSULTED BY PHONE BY GEN GETACHEW BEFORE AND DURING MORNING MEETING WITH CONSUL.

5. DURING AMB'S CALL ON FONMIN AT 1230 TODAY FOR ANOTHER PURPOSE, AMB, HAVING HAD TELEPHONE REPORT OF SUCCESSFUL MEETING (DESCRIBED REF B), THANKED FONMIN KIFLE FOR HIS HELP AND INTERVENTION. KIFLE SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT DISPUTE ORIGINATED WHEN US PERSONNEL BROKE WINDOWS. AMB (NOT HAVING RECEIVED REF B AT THAT TIME) SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD OF THAT ELEMENT, BUT IN ANY CASE THAT WOULD BE NO EXCUSE FOR ETHIOPIAN TROOP ACTIONS IN DETAINING AND STRIKING AMERICANS, WHICH WERE UNACCEPTABLE.

6. COMMENT: SUGGEST WE HOLD FURTHER FIRE ON THIS INCIDENT UNTIL WE SEE WHETHER GEN GETACHEW'S UNUSUALLY (FOR ETHIOPIA) FORTHCOMING AND APOLOGETIC STATEMENTS ARE TRANSLATED INTO ACTION. WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED LATER TO SEE REPORTS FROM ETHIOPIAN SIDE TRY TO ASSIGN MAJOR

BLAME TO U.S. PERSONNEL, AND IF THIS HAPPENS WE WOULD WEIGH IN HEAVILY AGAIN. HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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